

LONDON- WEST MIDLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Volume 5 | Technical Appendices

CFA22 | Whittington to Handsacre
Baseline report (CH-001-022)
Cultural heritage

November 2013

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Department
for Transport

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Appendix CH-001-022

Environmental topic:	Cultural heritage	CH
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1 Introduction

1.1 Structure of the cultural heritage appendices

1.1.1 The cultural heritage appendices for the Whittington to Handsacre Community Forum Area (CFA) comprise:

- baseline reports (this appendix);
- a gazetteer of heritage assets (Appendix CH-002-022);
- impact assessment tables (Appendix CH-003-022); and
- survey reports (Appendix CH-004-022).

1.1.2 Maps referred to throughout the cultural heritage appendices are contained in the Volume 5 cultural heritage map book

1.2 Content and scope

1.2.1 This baseline provides part of the evidence base, along with Appendices CH-002-022 and CH-004-022, against which the assessment of assets that may be affected by the Proposed Scheme can be determined. It collates information about known and potential heritage assets from a variety of sources and presents a chronological description and discussion of the development of the study area, placing assets within their historical and archaeological context.

1.2.2 The baseline is structured as follows:

- Section 1 provides introductory material relating to the scope of the assessment, Study Area and key data sources;
- Section 2 provides background info on geology and topography;
- Section 3 provides a chronological description of the archaeological and historical development of the area;
- Section 4 provides an overview of the built heritage resource;
- Section 5 relates to a map regression;
- Section 6 provides a description of the historic landscape, including parks, gardens and important hedgerows;
- Section 7 describes the archaeological character of the route. This is closely related to Appendix CH-003-022;
- Section 8 provides an overview of archaeological understanding and potential;
- Section 9 provides conclusions; and
- Section 10 provides information sources.

1.3 Study area

- 1.3.1 The Whittington to Handsacre area lies in the district of Lichfield, Staffordshire and comprises parts of the civil parishes of Whittington, Streethay, Curborough and Elmhurst, Alrewas and Fradley, Kings Bromley and Armitage with Handsacre.
- 1.3.2 All non-designated and designated assets within construction boundary and within 500m of it have been detailed in this baseline assessment. In addition, designated heritage assets have been examined up to 2km either side of the construction boundary.
- 1.3.3 All identified assets are listed in Appendix CH002-022 and shown on Maps CH-01-61b through CH-01-65 and CH-02-37 and CH-02-38 in the Volume 5 cultural heritage map book.

1.4 Data sources

- 1.4.1 Sources examined as part of this baseline assessment include published secondary sources, cartographic sources, Historic Environment Record data for undesignated heritage assets and English Heritage National Heritage List data for designated assets. A full list of published sources can be found in Section 11 of this appendix.

1.5 Surveys undertaken

- 1.5.1 The following surveys were undertaken as part of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process:
- Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) survey of the majority of the Proposed Scheme and land around it (see Appendix CH-004-022);
 - hyperspectral survey of the majority of the land around the Proposed Scheme (see Appendix CH-004-022);
 - a programme of non-intrusive surveys including geophysical prospection (see Appendix CH-004-022); and
 - site reconnaissance field inspections to review the setting of historic assets and the character and form of the historic landscape.

2 Geology, topography and landform

- 2.1.1 The solid geology in the Study Area dates to the Triassic period (248-205 million years old). Across the central and southern part of Staffordshire these Triassic strata are red, yellow and brown sandstones, in the Study Area mainly 'Bromsgrove' sandstones. This is the predominant geology of the area from Whittington Heath as far as Streethay. These sandstones are free-draining and create acidic soils that typically support heathland vegetation such as at Whittington Heath.
- 2.1.2 The sandstones are overlain by mudstones of the Triassic Mercia Mudstone group (known historically as Keuper Marl) in parts of the study area. These deposits occur throughout much of central Staffordshire and the upper part of the River Trent catchment, where they form neutral clay-rich soils – often supporting woodland and pasture. In the Study Area the mudstones extend from Streethay to Curborough, just north of the site of the former RAF Lichfield.
- 2.1.3 During the quaternary period (over the last two million years) Staffordshire experienced repeated advances and retreats of glaciers and ice sheets, leaving deposits of till (or boulder clay), from within and beneath the glaciers and ice-sheets. During the last glacial advance (the Devensian Glacial about 20,000 years ago) ice invaded from the Irish Sea area and deposited till, sands and gravels across Staffordshire. These glaciofluvial deposits of clay, sand and gravel, are found within the valley of the river Trent, and extend into the Study Area from its northern end at Handsacre as far south as Curborough. Less than 1km to the east of the Study Area from Handsacre to Curborough these quaternary deposits take the form of gravel river terraces lining the river valleys of the Trent and Tame. Bands of these deposits extend across our Study Area in two places: at Streethay up as far as East Hill Farm and again at the northern end of the scheme at Tuppenhurst Farm.
- 2.1.4 Running east across the Proposed Scheme from the Tame and Trent Valleys, three alluvial channels (containing clay, silt and gravel) represent former and current river and stream beds. The first runs from Huddlesford across the scheme to the mills on the brook at Mill Farm and Darnford, in the area of the Mare, Darnford and Fulfen Brooks. The second follows the old course of the Curborough Brook near Wood End Lock. The third crosses the scheme at Seedy Mill, running east from Kings Bromley Wharf (the Bourne Brook).
- 2.1.5 The Whittington to Handsacre CFA is relatively low lying, around or below 100m ASL. Whittington Heath lies on relatively high ground at about 100m ASL, but heading north the scheme corridor drops away to 60m ASL at Mill Farm. Sandstone outcrops give rise to some low hills such as at Hill Farm at Whittington and Hill Farm at Streethay (both around 85m ASL). The scheme runs at about 65m ASL from Streethay towards Wood End Farm, where it rises to run along a 75m ASL terrace for the remainder of the route. The scheme lies 4km from the Tame at Whittington Heath, and only 2km from the Tame at Streethay, running between 3km and 2km from the Trent for the remainder of the route, with high ground at New Farm and a dip around the river gravels at Tuppenhurst Farm.
- 2.1.6 In summary, the geological character of the landscape in the Study Area has dictated the form of historic and current land use, with heathland, woodland and pasture

dominating since the earliest periods. A further defining characteristic of the Study Area is the presence of the rivers Tame and Trent, with their extending gravel beds and particularly their tributary streams. These (although often barely a trickle or invisible today) cut across the Study Area and separated farms and parishes from the medieval period onwards, dictating the nature of land partition and settlement then and now. Alluvium is recorded along the courses of the brooks and has the potential to preserve palaeo-environmental remains.

3 Archaeological and historical background

3.1 Early prehistory

Palaeolithic 500,000-10,000BC

- 3.1.1 The first early human activity in Britain can be dated to around 500,000 years ago, during the complex sequence of 'pre-Anglian' and 'Anglian' interglacial and glacial phases (from around 700,000 to around 400,000 years ago). Evidence of early humans across Staffordshire, even up to the middle of the period, is rare¹.
- 3.1.2 The Trent, in the northern part of the study area, developed as a river system at the end of the Anglian glaciation 423,000 years ago², and the valley system would have come to provide an important ecological corridor for the movement of human and animals. However, even around the valley evidence of activity of the period is sparse³. Warm phases between glacial periods may have attracted human occupation, as demonstrated by finds of lithic artefacts in pre-Anglian (before 400,000 years ago) deposits in Warwickshire⁴ and Anglian (400,000-330,000 years ago) deposits in Oxfordshire. Discovery of deposits of temperate phases during this period and up to 250,000 years ago in and around the Trent Valley would be of paramount palaeo-archaeological importance⁵.
- 3.1.3 Significant discoveries of Palaeolithic artefacts have been made in south Staffordshire dating to between 250,000 and 150,000 years ago⁶, many during the quarrying of gravel terraces in the Trent Valley just beyond the Study Area. A period of harsh climate and further glaciation is believed to have caused humans to abandon the region from that time until 60,000 years ago, when Neanderthal communities may have recolonized the valley. The finding of four woolly rhinoceros at Whitemoor Haye (just north of the study area) of around this period in 2002⁷ in the sandy gravel of a river channel through the Mercia Mudstone bedrock suggests that the climate was once again temperate and that this ecological corridor had reopened. In the absence of any local flint, any finds (stone tools) from this period would be made from local materials – particularly from quartzite from the north west of Birmingham⁸.
- 3.1.4 The Study Area itself lay at the limit of the Devensian ice (60,000-40,000 years ago) and would still have been an extreme environment for human habitation until after the retreat of the ice sheet. At this time there would have likely been a discontinuous

¹ Garwood, P. (2011), The earlier prehistory of the west midlands. In: S. Watt, ed., *The Archaeology of the west midlands: a framework for research*. Oxford: Oxbow Books, pp. 9-99.

² Lang, A. and Buteux, S. (2007), Lost but not forgotten: the Lower and Middle Palaeolithic occupation of the West Midlands. In: P. Garwood, ed., *The Undiscovered Country: the earlier prehistory of the West Midlands*. Oxford: Oxbow Books, pp. 6-22.

³ Knight, D. and Howard J. (2004), *Trent Valley Landscapes: The Archaeology of 500,000 Years of Change*. King's Lynn: Heritage Marketing and Publications Ltd, p12.

⁴ Shotton, F.W., Keen D.H., Coope, C.R., Currant, A.P., Cibbard, P.L., Aalto, M., Peglar, S.M. and Robinson, J.E. (1993), The Middle Pleistocene deposits of Waverley Wood Pit, Warwickshire, England. *Journal of Quaternary Science*, 8, pp. 293-325.

⁵ Knight and Howard 2004, 15.

⁶ Wymer, J. J. (1999), *The Lower Palaeolithic Occupation of Britain*. Salisbury: Trust for Wessex Archaeology, Ltd., p. 50.

⁷ Buteux, S et al. (2003), *The Whitemoor Haye Woolly Rhino Site*. Unpublished assessment report funded by the ALSF. Birmingham: University of Birmingham Archaeology Field Unit.

⁸ Lang, A.T.O. and Keen, D. H. (2005), Hominid colonisation and the Lower and Middle Palaeolithic of the West Midlands. *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*, 71, pp. 63-83.

presence in the area, depending on the movement of the ice and the climate of each successive glacial and interglacial period.

- 3.1.5 The nature of remains from the period means that they are not easily or often found, so any in situ lithic sites offering good dating evidence and high quality palaeo-environmental evidence would be of medium, even high significance.
- 3.1.6 In the upper Palaeolithic period (40,000 years ago) the earliest anatomically modern humans appeared in Europe. The period was characterised by a glacial phase from about 25,000 years ago until about 13,000 years ago, followed by a warmer phase leading into the Mesolithic period. Ice would probably have extended into the Upper Trent Valley at this time as far as the Trent/Tame confluence⁹ leading to the deposition of sands and gravels and the creation of valley terraces. The landscape was probably too inhospitable for occupation for much of the period, remaining so until the warmer phase beginning around 13,000 years ago. There are very few early upper Palaeolithic finds in the region and none near to our study area.

Mesolithic 10,000-4,000BC

- 3.1.7 Early in this period the islands of Britain were separated from the continent, and the landscape of the region changed from a treeless moorland to a forest of birch, pine and oak among other mixed vegetation by the end of the period¹⁰ (Hooke 2006). Almost all archaeological evidence of the period in Britain is from lithic assemblages. The early part of the period is characterised by finds of large tools, for game hunting on the plains – with the later period characterised by smaller tools, used for processing tasks, and for exploitation of woodland and marine resources¹¹.
- 3.1.8 Finds in Staffordshire of this period are low compared with elsewhere in Britain¹² – there are sites in the Upper Trent Valley, but not near to the study¹³. Most sites of the period are within well-drained, elevated terrain close to water sources¹⁴, but have also been found on clay soils (such as the gravel capped ridge of Mercia Mudstone at Swarkestone Lowes¹⁵, and further sites may be buried beneath later colluvial and alluvial material¹⁶. There is no evidence yet in the Trent Valley that Mesolithic hunter gatherers precipitated great landscape change – such as burning or clearance, or limited cereal production – a hypothesis for which environmental data would be needed to prove¹⁷.
- 3.1.9 The earliest archaeology from Lichfield is from this period, and consists of a stratified scatter of lithic instruments recovered from an excavation site in the grounds of Saint Michael's Church, outside the study area.

⁹ Knight and Howard 2004, 22.

¹⁰ Hooke, D. (2006), *England's Landscape: The West Midlands*. London: Collins.

¹¹ Garwood 2011.

¹² Knight and Howard 2004, 38.

¹³ Garwood 2011, 26.

¹⁴ Myers, A., 2007. The Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic archaeology of the West Midlands. In: P. Garwood, ed., *The Undiscovered Country: the earlier prehistory of the West Midlands*. Oxford: Oxbow Books, p. 31.

¹⁵ Garton, D and Brown, J. (1999), Flint, quartzite and polished stone artefacts. In: Elliott, L. and Knight, D., eds., *An early Mesolithic and first millennium BC settlement and pit alignments at Swarkestone Lowes*, Derbyshire Archaeological Journal 119, pp. 106-124.

¹⁶ Knight and Howard 2004, 38.

¹⁷ Mithen, S. (1999), Hunter–gatherers of the Mesolithic. In: J. Hunter and I. Ralston, eds, *The Archaeology of Britain: an introduction from the Upper Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution*. London: Psychology Press, pp. 35-57.

Neolithic 4,000-2,200BC

- 3.1.10 In this period in Britain began a gradual transition from a hunter-gatherer to an agricultural economy. Evidence from the Trent Valley and wider West Midlands includes the first domesticated animal and plant species, and the material culture includes the first monumental and ceremonial architecture¹⁸. Settlement and population density in the Study Area from the early Neolithic period to the early Bronze Age period is not well understood. A possible landscape model for the early part of the Neolithic period is one based on pastoralism (and hunter gathering), with some cultivation in woodland clearings on the river terraces, gradually shifting to one of increasingly permanent settlement, wider spread clearance and agriculture^{19,20}. This model has been proposed for elsewhere in Britain, but there is currently insufficient evidence for it to be applied directly to the Trent Valley and its surrounds²¹.
- 3.1.11 There is no evidence of settlement of the period in or near the Study Area and no sites of the period were found on the M6 Toll excavations²². The settlement evidence in the region as a whole is generally characterised by flint and stone tool scatters, and by dispersed low density scatters of pits, post holes and gullies, with early Neolithic features often hard to discern when dug into sandy subsoils²³. There are certainly no obvious large groups of early Neolithic funerary monuments and enclosures in the region similar to those in Wessex and Sussex. However, in the channels and tributaries of the Trent it is possible that settlement remains may be found beneath alluvial deposits²⁴.
- 3.1.12 In recent years aerial photography has provided evidence of an increasingly complex landscape around the edges of the Trent Valley, including in the Study Area, revealing a high density of crop marks of potentially early and certainly later Neolithic and Bronze Age date²⁵. Two causewayed enclosures (the largest in the region at around 4 ha) of potential early Neolithic date have been identified just north of the Trent/Tame confluence and just outside the Study Area– at Alrewas and at Mavesyn Ridware²⁶. The function of these is unknown, but may have been for semi-permanent occupation.
- 3.1.13 From the mid Neolithic and into the late Neolithic, the region is characterised by new, large scale monument forms and the emergence of organised sacred or ceremonial landscapes, with sites at Catholme and Whitemoor Haye, just north of the study area, in the river gravels, representing a significant concentration of middle and late

¹⁸ Garwood 2011, 32.

¹⁹ Barrett, J.C. (1994), *Fragments from antiquity: an archaeology of social life in Britain, 2900-1200 BC*. Oxford: Blackwell.

²⁰ Whittle, A. (1997), Moving on and moving around: Neolithic settlement mobility. In: P. Topping, ed., *Neolithic landscapes: Neolithic Studies Group Seminar Paper 2*. Oxford: Oxbow Monograph 86, pp. 15-22.

²¹ Knight and Howard 2004, 70.

²² Powell, A.B., Booth, P., Fitzpatrick, A.P. and Crockett, A.D. (2008), *The Archaeology of the M6 Toll, 2000-2003*. Oxford-Wessex Monograph 2. Oxford and Salisbury: Oxford Wessex Archaeology.

²³ Ibid., 67.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid., 47.

²⁶ Oswald, A., Dyer, C., and Barber, M. (2001), *The Creation of Monuments, Neolithic causewayed enclosures in the British Isles*. Swindon: English Heritage.

Neolithic activity. Here a cluster of ring ditches, a multiple post circle and pit array, and at least three cursus monuments were excavated near Alrewas^{27, 28, 29}.

- 3.1.14 Also in recent years there has been significant study of burnt mounds (of possible late Neolithic date in former channels and tributaries of the Trent³⁰ – however, none have been found in or near to the Study Area.
- 3.1.15 Neolithic activity in the form of a sub-surface flint scatter and lithic implements were recorded in Lichfield during a land reclamation evaluation and excavations conducted at Number 19 The Close, the Neolithic material surviving in stratified deposits beneath the remains of a Medieval house. Single finds of axes of possible Neolithic or early Bronze Age date have been found within the Study Area, although their original provenance is unknown (MST646, MST977, MST6317, MST2011).
- 3.1.16 Cropmark sites in the Study Area at WHA312 and WHA315 possibly contain features of Neolithic date, although the sites are more likely to be Bronze Age or later in origin.

3.2 Later prehistory

Bronze Age 2,200-700BC

- 3.2.1 Although no clear archaeological distinction can be drawn between the end of the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age, around the beginning of the 3rd millennium BC there was a sudden rapid increase in round barrow construction which has tended to define the transition between the periods and the focus of archaeological investigation. Generally, surviving mounds exist in areas used for pasture and ring ditches are found in areas subject to arable farming³¹.
- 3.2.2 North of Handsacre, outside the study area, no less than six bronze-age round barrows have been recorded as circular cropmarks on aerial photographs (centred on SK 103169). There are three identified ring ditches in the Study Area (WHA311 on the Fulfen Brook, WHA324 on the Bourne Brook and WHA360 on the Pyford Brook).
- 3.2.3 There is virtually no settlement evidence of the period in region³². Perhaps isolated pits at Whitemoor Haye, east of the study area, may be associated with domestic structures, but may represent other activities³³. Burnt mounds, the purpose of which is uncertain³⁴, but which are often located close to water sources, are not found in or near the Study Area– and most West Midlands examples are of a later date. Equally there is very little palaeo-environmental material coming from this part of Staffordshire for the later Bronze Age. It is thought that the Study Area would have continued to be predominantly forested in this period³⁵.

²⁷ Woodward, A. (2007), Ceremonial landscapes and ritual deposits in the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods in the West Midlands. In: P. Garwood, ed., *The Undiscovered Country: the earlier prehistory of the West Midlands*. Oxford: Oxbow Books, pp. 182-93.

²⁸ Coates, G. (2002), *A Prehistoric and Romano-British Landscape: excavations at Whitemoor Haye Quarry, Staffordshire, 1997-1999*. Oxford: BAR British series 340.

²⁹ Buteux, S. and Chapman, H. (2009), *Where Rivers Meet, the archaeology of Catholme and the Trent-Tame confluence*. York: Council for British Archaeology Research Report 161.

³⁰ Knight and Howard 2004, 56.

³¹ Garwood 2011, 69.

³² Garwood 2011, 73.

³³ Coates 2002.

³⁴ Halsted, J. (2005), *Bronze Age Settlement in the Welsh Marches*. Oxford: BAR British Series 384, pp. 39-44.

³⁵ Knight and Howard 2004.

- 3.2.4 Evidence potentially of this date and relate to settlement has been identified in the study area: WHA327 enclosure and pit alignment near Tuppenhurst Farm, enclosures or other landscape features at WHA344 and WHA345 near Brokendown Wood, enclosures and other features at WHA361 near Riley Hill Farm and an enclosure on the Fulfen Brook (WHA312).

Iron Age 700BC-AD43

- 3.2.5 From around the middle of the first millennium BC, settlement in the region is generally more visible in the landscape – aerial photographic survey shows areas of occupation surrounded by ditched and banked enclosures, and increasing subdivisions or field systems and boundaries within what must have become an intensively farmed landscape in the 5th and 4th centuries BC. In the mid Iron Age these enclosures became widespread, and can be found in association with the remains of round houses including in the Trent and Tame Valleys near the Study Area at Fisherwick^{36,37} and on the route of the M6 Toll³⁸.
- 3.2.6 Only a small proportion of settlement sites identified in the region through aerial photography have been fully excavated for dating evidence and to enable analysis of the function of settlement in the landscape, for example at Catholme³⁹, Whitemoor Haye⁴⁰ and Fisherwick⁴¹.
- 3.2.7 In the Study Area, features seen in aerial photography at the Bourne Brook (WHA324) could represent some Iron Age activity as well as activity of other periods.
- 3.2.8 Iron Age finds reflect a broader range of material culture including stone axes, coinage and jewellery (such as a bronze torc from Alrewas^{42,43}) but relatively little ceramic material, and certainly no production sites near to or within the study area. Few Iron Age burials have been found in the region.

3.3 Romano-British AD43-410

- 3.3.1 The region is characterised in the Roman period by intensification of agriculture, industry and the mobilisation of resources, most likely to feed the army, but also for an increasingly wealthy and mobile population. It has been argued⁴⁴ that the region was north facing – that it may have served in large part as a procurement zone for the communities that made up and supported the army in the north and west – for food, and for manpower – but it would also have served to provide resources for the south and east of the country in the form of minerals, metals and building materials in a growing new market economy.

³⁶ Coates 2002.

³⁷ Smith, C., ed. (1979), *Fisherwick: The Reconstruction of an Iron Age Landscape*. Oxford: BAR 61.

³⁸ Powell et al. 2008.

³⁹ Losco-Bradley, S. and Kinsley, G. (2002), *Catholme: an Anglo-Saxon settlement on the Trent gravels in Staffordshire*. Nottingham: University of Nottingham.

⁴⁰ Coates 2002.

⁴¹ Smith, ed. 1978.

⁴² Wardle, C. (2002). The Late Bronze Age and Iron Age in Staffordshire: the torc of the Midlands? *West Midlands Regional Research Framework for Archaeology, Seminar 2, Later Prehistory: the Middle Bronze Age and Iron Age*. 23 September 2002, Worcester, University of Birmingham.

⁴³ Hurst, D. (2011), Middle Bronze Age to Iron Age: a research assessment overview and agenda. In: S. Watt, ed., *The Archaeology of the west midlands: a framework for research*. Oxford: Oxbow Books, p. 115.

⁴⁴ Esmonde Cleary, S. (2011), The Romano-British period: an assessment. In: S. Watt, ed., *The Archaeology of the west midlands: a framework for research*. Oxford: Oxbow Books, pp. 127-147.

- 3.3.2 The largest known Roman settlement close to the Study Area is Wall (less than 5 miles south of the study area). The small town of Wall grew up from around the middle of the first century AD. Mancetter (20 miles away) in north Warwickshire was the nearest major fortress, and some legionary component may have also been established at Wall where there were certainly a series of forts⁴⁵. Watling Street, the road from London to Wroxeter is less than 5 miles south of the study area, passing through Wall. Ryknield Street (WHA328) provided one of the main routes from the south west to the north east – crossing Watling Street at Wall, and then passing through the Study Area on its way north to Littlechester.
- 3.3.3 Sites which may provide evidence of Roman activity have been identified in the Study Area at WHA315 – where a large area of crop marks just north of Ryknield Street may represent Roman settlement or at least intensive farming. WHA324 contains features which represent a complex agricultural landscape, probably originating much earlier but possibly still occupied in the Roman period.
- 3.3.4 Small towns and villages (clusters of enclosures and structural remains extending over several hectares) were new to Britain in this period. These smaller settlements might be represented by single or multiple ditched rectangular enclosures or organised field systems, paddocks, ponds and trackways⁴⁶. Excavations at Whitemoor Haye at Alrewas (less than 5 miles from the study area) and Fisherwick (2 miles from the study area) have both provided evidence of this kind of Roman settlement and agricultural organisation⁴⁷.
- 3.3.5 Roman finds are concentrated in this part of the Study Area around Whittington (WHA304), and at the site of a possible villa at Curborough (MST4660) while brooches and other isolated finds have been made in and around Lichfield and at Streethay (MST4662).
- 3.3.6 Few Roman cemeteries have been excavated in the region, although 42 cremation graves and over 15 inhumations were recovered at Wall during construction of the M6 Toll⁴⁸.

3.4 Early medieval AD410-1066

- 3.4.1 The early medieval period is not easily visible archaeologically but based on documentary evidence a picture of a busy landscape with new settlement and increasing 'open-field' agriculture can be seen.
- 3.4.2 In the 6th century most of the region became part of Greater Mercia⁴⁹, with its key diocesan centre at Lichfield ('field by the grey wood'⁵⁰). Lichfield was established as a bishopric in 669, and gained an early cathedral by the early 8th century⁵¹. With the

⁴⁵ Powell et al. 2008.

⁴⁶ Riley, D. N. (1980), *Early Landscape from the air: Studies of cropmarks in South Yorkshire and North Nottinghamshire*. Sheffield: University of Sheffield.

⁴⁷ Miles, N. (1969), Excavations at Fisherwick, Staffs 1968 – a Romano British farmstead and a Neolithic occupation site. *Transactions of the South Staffordshire Archaeological and Historical Society*, 10, pp. 1-22.

⁴⁸ Powell et al. 2008, 528.

⁴⁹ Hooke, D. (2001), Mercia: landscape and environment. In: Brown, M.P., and Farr, C.A., eds, *Mercia, an Anglo-Saxon Kingdom in Europe*. London: Continuum International Publishing Group, p. 160, map 4.

⁵⁰ Gelling, M. and Cole, A. (2000), *The Landscape of Place-Names*. Stamford: Shaun Tyas.

⁵¹ Greenslade, M. W., ed. (1990), *A History of the County of Stafford: Volume 14 – Lichfield*. Victoria County History. British History Online, www.british-history.ac.uk.

growth of Mercia's power in the 8th century, culminating in the reign of Offa (AD 757–796), Lichfield, as the ecclesiastical centre of the kingdom, grew in importance. The Study Area lies within the early medieval administrative division of Offlow Hundred, with its judicial and administrative centre at Lichfield.

- 3.4.3 The cathedral was the burial place probably of King Wulfhere (d. 674) and certainly of King Ceolred (d. 716). In 787 Lichfield became the centre of an archbishopric extending apparently from the Thames to the Humber⁵². The period also saw the development of other central places – with royal, military or ecclesiastical influence over surrounding areas and production centres for pottery and other goods, such as Tamworth, already an important Mercian royal vill in the 8th century. In the 9th century, the area around Lichfield north of Watling Street passed into the Danelaw – although this is not apparent archaeologically in any boundary or settlement changes⁵³.
- 3.4.4 The discovery of the Staffordshire Hoard (dating to the early 7th or 8th century) in Hammerwich (less than 6 miles from the study area) in 2009 has raised the research profile of the period in the region and has highlighted many regional and national research questions – relating to social structures, movement of people and political unrest among many others. In terms of finds nearer to the study area, Saxon pottery and metal work have been recovered from sites near Curborough (MST11811, MST4660).
- 3.4.5 Otherwise, most evidence for the early medieval period nearby is funerary. A number of Anglo Saxon burials have been found in the Trent Valley area (e.g. the 6th and 7th century burials at Wychnor⁵⁴ and at Catholme⁵⁵), including inhumations, cremations and mixed rites.
- 3.4.6 The development of the post Roman and early medieval character of different parts of the landscape will have been distinctive, depending on the quality of soils, and the character of existing landscape, whether woodland, valley or upland. In terms of settlement, there appears to have been some continuity in the region from the Roman period, with some early village sites yielding Roman pottery⁵⁶. There is also evidence that Roman roads remained in use⁵⁷. It appears that settlement initially remained broadly similar in form to that of the end of Roman period – a dispersed pattern focussing on the gravel terraces, increasingly becoming concentrated around new estate nuclei where agricultural production was most intense, often in the same locations as Romano British farmsteads⁵⁸. Open field farming started on church or crown lands among groups of tenants, but also perhaps on new 'manors' developing as the late Roman estates fragmented.

⁵² Greenslade 1990, 4–14.

⁵³ Hadley, D. (2000), *The Northern Danelaw: its Social Structure, 800–1100*. Leicester: Leicester University Press, p. 26–35.

⁵⁴ Kinsley, A. G. (1989), *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Millgate, Newark-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire: Excavations Between 1958–1978*. Nottingham Archaeological Monographs 2. Nottingham: University of Nottingham.

⁵⁵ Losco-Bradley and Kinsley 2002.

⁵⁶ Hooke, D. (2011), The post-Roman and the early medieval periods in the west midlands: a potential archaeological agenda. In: S. Watt, ed., *The Archaeology of the west midlands: a framework for research*. Oxford: Oxbow Books, pp. 149–172.

⁵⁷ Hooke, D. (1981), *Anglo-Saxon Landscapes of the West Midlands: the charter evidence*. BAR British Series 95. Oxford: BAR.

⁵⁸ Hooke, D. (2006), *England's Landscape: The West Midlands*. London: Collins, p. 52.

- 3.4.7 Catholme⁵⁹ is the most thoroughly excavated of early medieval rural settlement sites nearby, although poor dating limits the understanding of its development. The site consists of a post Roman hamlet or series of farmsteads – sixty five buildings in several phases located on river terrace gravels close to Wychnor cemetery. Pottery from the site dates from the 6th century but the site was occupied until the late 9th century.
- 3.4.8 A relatively common site type of the period is the watermill – a mill on the Tame at Tamworth has been dated to the 8th century⁶⁰ and mills are likely to have been widespread on the Trent and its tributaries from this period. Also fisheries and fish-weirs grew in number towards the medieval period (a large number of which have been found in the Trent valley⁶¹). Domesday confirms this with mills recorded in the prime agricultural lands around the Tame and Trent⁶².
- 3.4.9 There are no known sites of this period in the Study Area.

3.5 Medieval AD1066-1540

- 3.5.1 The Study Area lies within the boundaries of medieval Cannock Forest. Domesday describes Lichfield as containing 'a woodland, 8½ leagues and 7 furlongs long and 6½ leagues and 8 furlongs wide...' [13.5 miles (22 km) long by 10.75 miles (17 km) wide and covering an area of over 146 square miles (380 km²)]. Royal hunts would have frequented the forest, and an interpretation of a mound known as 'King's Standing' (WHA321) has suggested it as a medieval hunting platform (MST976). The exact extent of the woodland in this period is not known, but it could have surrounded Lichfield as far as the Trent Valley terraces to its north and east. The forest would have been dominated by open woodland interspersed with grazed areas and some farmland and settlements (Natural England NCA 69). Cannock Chase was carved out of the royal forest and granted to the Bishop of Lichfield in 1290.
- 3.5.2 At Lichfield there was a break in episcopal succession around the time of the Danelaw, but the minster continued under Norman administration⁶³. In 1129 the Earl of Chester built a castle at Lichfield and a defensive ditch and wall around the medieval town were added in the mid-12th century. The town lay on an important road between London and Chester (later turnpiked) and on Ryknild Street – at this cross roads it functioned as a market and judicial centre, and for pilgrims visiting the shrine of St. Chad. Among the city's own products leather goods remained important⁶⁴.
- 3.5.3 Lichfield contained 15 villages. A characteristic of most rural settlement between the 11th and 15th centuries was its location on agricultural terraces like the ones in the study area. Evidence for settlement patterns is usually taken from historic maps or based on current hamlet and village layouts.
- 3.5.4 In this period the manorial system became central to the administration of rural settlement, the manor itself often being identified by a moated site. Around 6,000

⁵⁹ Losco-Bradley and Kinsley 2002.

⁶⁰ Rahtz, P. and Meeson, R. (1992), *An Anglo-Saxon watermill at Tamworth*. Council for British Archaeology Research Report 83. York: CBA.

⁶¹ Salisbury, C. R., Whitley, P. J., Litton, C. D., & Fox, J. L. (1984), Flandrian courses of the River Trent at Colwick, Nottingham. *Mercian Geologist* 9(4), pp. 189-207.

⁶² Wheatley, P. (1971), Staffordshire. In: Darby, H., Clifford, H. and Terrett, B., eds, *The Domesday Geography of Midland England*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, p. 205.

⁶³ Greenslade 1990.

⁶⁴ Lichfield City Council (n.d.), *Historic Landscape Characterisation*.

moated sites are known in England. They consist of wide ditches, often or seasonally water-filled, partly or completely enclosing one or more islands of dry ground on which stood domestic or religious buildings. In some cases the islands were used for horticulture. The majority of moated sites served as prestigious residences with the provision of a moat intended as a status symbol rather than a practical military defence. The peak period during which moated sites were built was between about 1250 and 1350. These sites are often only known to us through limited investigation of the moat or internal structures: there has been little recording of associated landscapes – fishponds, and gardens. Two, possibly three moated manor sites are known in the study area: Streethay moated site (WHA132), Handsacre moated site (WHA326) and an un-investigated moated site (WHA 310).

- 3.5.5 The moated site at Streethay (WHA132) is a Scheduled Monument. The site is shown on tithe maps and the HER (MST3322) describes it as a 'single, polygonal, flat moated site circa 80 metres by 75 metres with a long narrow fishpond to the south. A later, 17th century (listed) manor house now occupies the site. It is believed that the medieval moat was converted to a fish farm by the 17th century Manor owners. The location of the eastern arm of the moat is now uncertain (based on a survey carried out in the 1980s and referenced in the HER), while the south-east was destroyed by a later pond and part of the northern arm re-dug. The western and southern sides of the moat are up to 20 metres wide and 2 metres deep. The site is currently under the private garden of the Manor House and unimproved pasture.
- 3.5.6 The moated manor at Handsacre would have been the focus of the later medieval village (WHA326). The HER (MST220) describes a moated enclosure containing the remains of a 14th century open hall with later extensions and repairs. The moat may have been on the site earlier – according to the scheduling information for the manor, the Handsacre family lived in Handsacre prior to the Norman Conquest. The later (post medieval) Handsacre Hall on the site was demolished during the 1960s.
- 3.5.7 Asset WHA310 west of Fulfen Wood is recorded as 'possibly a medieval moated site'. The feature is visible on OS maps up to the mid-20th century but no other information about the moat has been gathered. On aerial photographs, two further circular features lie between the moat and Fulfen Brook – these may be associated with the moated site or earlier in date. With manors known at Whittington and Streethay it is likely that this site might be associated with Medieval Fulfen or Morughale (see below).
- 3.5.8 It is thought that a general increase in prosperity in the 13th century led to the development of centralised settlement and eventually to manorial estates and associated villages and churches. The earliest church at Whittington (WHA304) was built in this period. Whittington Old Hall is believed to date from the end of the period. Evidence of village centred agriculture can be seen in the remains of ridge and furrow earthworks visible on LiDAR at Huddlesford south of Whittington (WHA357), Curborough (WHA318), Ravenshaw Wood (WHA321), Handsacre (WHA326), Hanch Hall (WHA325) and at Whittington golf course (WHA303).
- 3.5.9 Settlements of medieval date that have thrived within the Study Area are Handsacre (WHA326) and Streethay (WHA314). However, towards the end of the period some villages were deserted or shrank considerably – events usually attributed to the

plague, but also following the general pattern of increasing centralisation within the landscape. We know of 3 settlements which no longer survive in the study area, at Morughale (WHA313), Curborough (WHA318) and Fulfen (WHA307).

- 3.5.10 Handsacre (WHA326) is believed to be a Saxon name, indicating possible cultivation activity in this area in the early medieval period⁶⁵. Early settlement is recorded at Handsacre in the Domesday survey (MST2462) as comprising 'land for 5 ploughs', and home to 82 villagers. North of the moated site, the remains of a small stone building (now possibly beneath the railway) are considered to have belonged to a medieval chapel, built after the conquest but subsequently abandoned when the parish church was built. Also the site of a manorial water mill and associated mill pond is recorded on Longdon Brook, the remains of which survived to the north-west of Handsacre Hall in the late 18th century. It is possible that this mill was built on the site of an earlier mill building, which is recorded in the HER to have burnt down in 1399. An area of marshy ground may indicate the location of the mill pond.
- 3.5.11 The nature and extent of settlement at Streethay (WHA314) in the medieval period is not known. The village is likely to have been close to or contained within the estate which centred on the later manor house, known to be held by Nicholas of Streethay in the mid 13th century (VCH). There may have been earlier buildings at Streethay House Farm (Listed Grade II) which could have been the main settlement, or it is possible that there was settlement closer to the site of the later Manor House (WHA132) (an aerial photo belonging to current Manor House owner shows uneven ground south of the garden). Field Cottage, Streethay cottage and Elverceter (WHA039) near the Manor House may be of medieval origin.
- 3.5.12 The location of the medieval village at Curborough (WHA318) is unknown, although the HER places it within historic farmland in Curborough parish on the east side of Curborough Brook. The settlement is likely a series of dispersed farmsteads or a clustering of farmsteads rather than a coherent village (LHEZ 28).
- 3.5.13 The medieval settlement of Fulfen (WHA307) lay on the west side of Darnford Brook. Fulfen was mentioned in the mid 12th century (the name means foul marshland, presumably that created by the Fulfen Brook)⁶⁶. In the mid 13th century Fulfen was a vill, and by 1486 a separate township in Longdon manor (SRO D661/2/379). Fulfen Farm was the centre of an estate by the 15th century. A green was recorded in 1435 east of Fulfen Farm where Cappers Lane forks, west of Fulfen cottages⁶⁷. A triangular patch of disturbed ground around the junction on aerial photograph NMR MAL/60412/78298 could represent the former village green. LiDAR shows a series of linear earthworks/boundaries south of Fulfen cottages (Appendix CH-004-022 Surveys).
- 3.5.14 The 'lost' hamlet of Morughale (WHA313), south west of Streethay, existed by the 13th century⁶⁸. From 1399, the 'Manor of Morughale'⁶⁹ was owned by Nicholas son of Henry Rugeley. The area around Streethay was known as township of Morughale and

⁶⁵ Gelling, M. (1981), Some Thoughts on Staffordshire Place-Names: North Staffordshire. *North Staffordshire Journal of Field Studies*, 21, p. 3.

⁶⁶ Greenslade 1990, pp. 273-283.

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

⁶⁹ SRO D/66//2/667-8.

Streethay in the 14th century⁷⁰. The name is thought to refer to an Anglo Saxon marriage custom involving gifts of land, suggesting that settlement in the Streethay area could date to the early medieval period. The centre of the hamlet is thought to have been along Morughale Lane (north of Burton Road), and existed until the late 15th century as a larger settlement than Streethay. A charter was dated at Morughale in 1443⁷¹. Morughale appears on no early maps, but it is thought that its fields extended south of Rykniel Street.

- 3.5.15 Other medieval features in the Study Area are Darnford Mill (WHA305), probably a water mill on the Darnford Brook, first recorded in 1243 and supposedly held then by the Archdeacon of Chester. Also, there is an earthwork bank (WHA319) of possible medieval date which lies along the boundary between Kings Bromley and Alrewas. A section has been excavated⁷², revealing no dating evidence. LiDAR shows ponds and other water management features, possibly medieval fishponds, at the location of this boundary bank (Appendix CH-004-022 Surveys).

3.6 Post medieval AD1540-1901

- 3.6.1 From the Medieval period onwards, the part of south Staffordshire around the Study Area was drawn increasingly into more organised regional and national communication networks – initially using river transport on the Trent and a surviving Roman road network, and then increasingly as a through-route for the distribution of raw materials and products from further afield on new roads, canals and railways.
- 3.6.2 By the mid-1600s the landscape of the area had become more open, with more extensive heathland, due to timber extraction. Woodland remained in areas of parkland and on higher ground. A large-scale programme of enclosure occurred between the 1770s and 1880s, where agriculture intensified. The 18th and 19th centuries also saw the layout of more formal parks and the intensification of arable farming and horticulture.
- 3.6.3 A major change in the landscape of the period was in the construction of the canals, the concept of James Brindley, built to serve the producers and suppliers of the industrial revolution⁷³, providing access between suppliers of raw materials (collieries and quarries), production centres (such as the potteries) and markets. They cut across fields and diverted natural water courses, introducing into the landscape a complex network of bridges, locks, buildings and way markers. The Trent and Mersey Canal (WHA340), or Grand Trunk Canal, was the second of this country's arterial canals, authorised in 1766, running from Preston Brook on the Bridgewater Canal to the navigable river Trent, and opening in 1777. The need to link Liverpool with London led to the building of the Oxford and Coventry canals, the Coventry canal (WHA309) joining the Grand Trunk Canal at Fradley, just outside the study area, by 1787. The Wyrley and Essington Canal (WHA308) joins the Coventry Canal at Huddlesford Junction in the study area. The early canals are of a unique character, with brick bridges and individual lock cottages. Mileposts were added along their courses in the early 19th century, contemporary with a later period of canal building under Telford.

⁷⁰ Greenslade 1990.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Welch, C. (2000), Earthwork at Woodend Lane, Kings Bromley. [Plan and Section Drawings]. Staffordshire County Council.

⁷³ Sherlock, R. (1976), *Industrial Archaeology of Staffordshire*. Stafford: Staffordshire County Council.

- 3.6.4 The need to transport goods and raw materials in an increasingly industrialised England also led the improvement of roads and eventually the development of the railways. In the 18th century a number of roads in the Study Area were turnpiked – introducing toll houses and mileposts into the landscape. Then in the early 1800s the basic structure of Staffordshire’s railways was laid out. The South Staffordshire Railway Line and the main Trent Valley Line were both opened in 1847.
- 3.6.5 By the early 19th century, tithe maps show a well sub-divided landscape within the study area. The focus of settlement in the landscape was on the growing village centres at Whittington, Streethay and Handsacre and on large estates. Much of the land around Streethay and to the north was owned by the Anson Estate (Lords of Lichfield) from the early 19th century. Other large estates within the Study Area were centred on Hanch Hall (WHA325), Elmhurst Hall (WHA323) and Freeford Manor (WHA300).
- 3.6.6 The landscape was predominantly agricultural with dispersed settlement, primarily based around farmsteads⁷⁴. The larger farms were Streethay Farm (WHA314), Fulfen Farm (WHA032), Hill Farm (WHA022), Curborough Farm (WHA138), East and West Hill Farms (WHA317), Wood End Farm (WHA062), New Farm (WHA322) and Tuppenhurst Farm (WHA188). Within the farmland, advantage was taken of local gravels and clays for building and surfacing – dispersed small scale pitting is visible in many of the fields in the Study Area (such as at Potters Thatch NMR OS83168/28). The heath at Whittington remained unenclosed, and from the early 18th century was used for horse racing, as depicted on the OS first edition and tithe map.
- 3.6.7 Lichfield Races were moved to the Heath in 1702 and during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries became one of the leading race meetings of the Midlands. According to contemporary sources, race events lasted for two or three weeks and formed the focus for a great social occasion with dinners, balls and concerts taking place and in and around Lichfield. Stands were opened on the course in 1773 and 1803 (the latter near the 2nd tee of the golf course). By 1750 Lichfield was the only racecourse in Staffordshire. Racing continued until 1895, when the War Office declared it inappropriate to continue racing near the barracks⁷⁵.
- 3.6.8 Between 1840 and 1875 a new brick grandstand was built adjacent to the main road. This was used by the army as a soldiers home in the 20th century, and was only was acquired in 1957 for a golf clubhouse (the early clubhouse was on the site of what is now the Whittington Arms). The building survives well (with modern additions) (WHA302) but is not listed.
- 3.6.9 From Fradley Wood northwards, various sized patches of woodland dotted the landscape towards Handsacre, much as it does today. Within this farmland, the only sites of a more industrial nature were mills –Darnford Mill (WHA305), Bunyan’s Mill (WHA306) and Seedy Mill (WHA143) are within the Study Area and all appear on tithe maps of the mid19th century.

⁷⁴ English Heritage (2010), *West Midlands Farmsteads and Landscapes Project*. Swindon: English Heritage.

⁷⁵ Greenslade 1990.

3.7 20th century/modern AD1901-present

- 3.7.1 Ordnance survey map regression from the present day to the second half of the 19th century suggests little change occurred on a large scale until the 1960s and 1970s with the development of the historic medieval village centres outwards for housing and with the widening of the A38 at Streethay. Lichfield has developed well beyond its original boundaries so that its north eastern corner merges with Streethay.
- 3.7.2 Other small changes included the development and disappearance of a nursery south of Whittington and the changing landscape from woodland to wetland and back to woodland at Black Slough/Ravenshaw Wood.
- 3.7.3 The most significant changes in landscape pattern of the Study Area in this period were in the development of military establishments at Whittington Heath Barracks (WHA301) and RAF Lichfield (WHA316).
- 3.7.4 In the mid19th century Whittington Heath (WHA303) was used increasingly frequently for military training (although racing continued until 1895). Following the Cardwell Reforms of 1870 new named regiments, including the North and South Staffords were formed. Lichfield was selected for the permanent barracks of the Staffords in 1875, and the land was purchased from the Marquis of Anglesey. Construction of the Barracks for the Depots of the two Regiments and for a Militia Battalion started in 1877. To support the project, brickyards were set up near the Swan canal bridge in Whittington and also at Huddlesford. A horse tramway was built for carts to carry the bricks up to the building site (www.whittingtonhistorysociety.org.uk). In September 1942 Whittington Barracks was taken over as the 10th Replacement Depot of the US Army. Although there was a small British presence, it remained in American hands until the end of the Second World War. During the 1960s there was a major programme of modernisation which involved the demolition of many of the older buildings and the development of the married quarter's estate.
- 3.7.5 The earliest golf course at Whittington was begun by a Colonel at the barracks in 1886. Whittington Barracks Golf Club secured a lease on the course in 1910 and in 1994 bought the land from the army, becoming Whittington Heath Golf Club.
- 3.7.6 Other wartime development of the Study Area took place at former RAF Lichfield, known locally as Fradley airfield. The airfield was constructed between 1939 and 1940. Aircrew were trained on Wellington Bombers at Lichfield, and operational missions were also flown (including to Cologne in May 1942). After the war the airfield became a maintenance site until 1958 when it closed and was sold by the Air Ministry. As Fradley Park, the site has now been developed for industrial units and over 750 new homes.

4 Built heritage

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 This section provides baseline information relating to all built heritage assets within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme, a 500m Study Area and designated built heritage assets within 2km of the centreline. The section provides the following information:
- broad overview of the character and form of the settlement pattern and key assets within 2km of the Proposed Scheme;
 - detailed descriptions of all built heritage assets wholly or partially within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme;
 - detailed descriptions of key built heritage assets within the 500m study area; and
 - descriptions of other key designated built heritage assets that lie outside of the 500m Study Area but within 2km of the centreline.
- 4.1.2 Further information on these and other built heritage assets can be found in Appendix CH-001-022.

4.2 Overview of settlement character and key assets

General

- 4.2.1 The landscape of the Whittington to Handsacre CFA is predominantly an 18th and 19th century rural landscape with isolated examples of earlier (medieval) buildings. Apart from the canals and associated structures, the built heritage of the CFA is largely represented by dispersed settlement between villages – predominantly farmsteads and rural buildings, as well as the remains of the estates and grounds of some grander houses such as Freeford Manor (WHA300), Hanch Hall (WHA325), and the Manor House at Streethay (WHA132).
- 4.2.2 The Proposed Scheme passes within 1km of Whittington Village (WHA304) and ends at Handsacre (WHA326) – both of which are settlements of medieval origin with significant modern development on their outer edges near to the Proposed Scheme. The main centre of Lichfield is less than 2km from the Proposed Scheme, and its modern conurbation extends through Streethay to the Proposed Scheme itself. North and south of Streethay, the Proposed Scheme runs well away from any concentrations of historic settlement until it reaches Handsacre.
- 4.2.3 Six conservation areas are either wholly or partly within the study area: Lichfield City (WHA125), Fradley Junction (WHA150), Longdon Green including Hill Top (WHA165, WHA174), the Trent and Mersey Canal (WHA340), Kings Bromley (WHA218) and Whittington Village (WHA304). Other villages within the Study Area are not designated: Fradley Village, Armitage village, Mavesyn Ridware village, Pipe Ridware village, Handsacre (WHA326) and Streethay (WHA314).
- 4.2.4 There are a number of designated farms in the study area. These are all listed Grade II: Hood Lane Farm (WHA190), Huddlesford Grange Farm (WHA122), Woodhouse Farm

(WHA123), Brownsfield Farmhouse (WHA133), Netherstowe Farmhouse (WHA134), Bluegates Farmhouse, barn and granary (WHA137), Curborough Farmhouse (WHA138), Sunnyside Farm (WHA140), Hill Top hamlet – farm, farmhouse and cottages (WHA174), Alrewas Hayes Farmhouse (WHA186), Tuppenhurst Farmhouse (WHA188), Marsh Barn Farmhouse (WHA192), Hanch Hall Farm (WHA325), Streethay House Farm and Farmhouse (WHA359), Seedy Mill farmhouse (WHA143).

4.2.5 Listed Grade II and Grade II* buildings within Lichfield itself lie just within the study area: Quarry Lodge (WHA110), Borrowcop Pavilion (WHA111), Rotten Row 53, 55, 57, 59-67 (WHA112), St Michael's Hospital/Lichfield Union Workhouse (WHA119), Knowle Lodge, wall and stable (WHA108), Stowe House (WHA127), Stowe Hill (WHA128), and the Church of St Michael and its associated monuments (WHA114).

4.2.6 Other listed buildings are:

- within Whittington Barracks (WHA301);
- on the Coventry (WHA309) and Trent and Mersey Canal (WHA340, including WHA338, WHA339 and WHA341) and Fradley junction (WHA150);
- on the River Trent at High Bridge (WHA212);
- at Seedy Mill waterworks (WHA169), and at Seedy Mill itself (WHA143); and
- in the villages of Streethay (WHA314), Longdon (WHA180), Longdon Green (WHA165), Hill Top (WHA174), Armitage (WHA197), Pipe Ridware (WHA216), Handsacre (WHA326), Mavesyn Ridware (WHA203), Kings Bromley (WHA218) and Whittington (WHA304).

4.2.7 Also just within the boundaries of the Study Area are the designated features of grand houses at: Freeford House (WHA109), Hanch Hall (WHA325) and Fisherwick Hall (WHA363).

4.3 Built Heritage assets within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme

Whittington Heath Golf Course Club House (WHA302)

4.3.1 The Club House is a mid to late 19th century brick building in the style of a bastion with crenulated towers located on the north side of the Tamworth road at Whittington Heath. It was originally built as a grandstand for Whittington racecourse, was subsequently used as a soldiers' hospital by Whittington Barracks from 1895 and then as a golf club from 1957. The building still has its terraced roof and covered balcony from which spectators would have viewed the races. A later western extension imitates design to a lesser degree, while unsympathetic modern extensions have been built to the north and east.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

4.3.2 The building's significance lies in the long history of its adapted use being still legible in its fabric, and its being one of the few surviving features of the early racecourse, as well as being associated with Whittington Barracks. Its setting does play a part in its significance, commanding a position across the golf course to the north, but also with a prominent place in the landscape when viewed from the south from beyond the

Tamworth Road near Freeford Home Farm. There is noise in the vicinity of the building from the Tamworth road.

Ellfield House and Lodge (WHA018)

- 4.3.3 Ellfield House and Lodge were built in the 19th century. While both have been extensively altered in the late 20th century the buildings still have some original character, set within a rural location and at either end of a tree lined drive with a number of associated outbuildings. The house has historic connections to Whittington Barracks.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.3.4 The buildings lie in an open landscape with views out across fields to the north and west and a close visual connection to the contemporary Whittington Hill House. The significance of the house lies predominantly in its surviving landscape setting and in the visual relationship of the main house to Whittington Hill House, rather than in its fabric or associated outbuildings.

The Coventry Canal (WHA309)

- 4.3.5 The canal runs north to Streethay from Whittington. The canal was first authorised in 1768 to link the Trent and Mersey Canal to the Oxford Canal, but not completed until circa 1787. Structures on the canal include Streethay Coal Wharf (not listed), Bearshay Bridge, a milestone near Bearshay Bridge (Listed Grade II), Streethay Bridge (not listed), Stoney Step Bridge (not listed), King's Orchard Bridge (not listed), a milestone south of King's Orchard Bridge (Listed Grade II), Huddlesford Bridge (not listed), Bowman's Bridge (not listed), Cheadle's Bridge, Swan Bridge (Listed Grade II).

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.3.6 The significance of the canal lies in the sequence and pattern of its structures and associated buildings and in its quiet landscape setting. The canal winds through open fields between Whittington and Streethay, and its junction with the Trent and Mersey Canal at Fradley is an important survival in terms of historic context, group value and continued use. Tow paths which are used as public footpaths provide important access to the canal, from which the historic character of the structures and peaceful landscape setting can be appreciated.

Listed milestones (Grade II) on the Coventry Canal (part of WHA309)

- 4.3.7 The listed milestone (Grade II) on the Coventry Canal between Stoney Step Bridge and King's Orchard Bridge dates to around 1785. It is inscribed on two faces – "3½" and "2".
- 4.3.8 The listed milestone (Grade II) near Bearshay Bridge is a square post with rounded top, set an angle to the canal at the back of the towing path. It is inscribed on two sides: "2 1/2" and "3".

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the assets

- 4.3.9 The significance of the milestones lies in their position. This would be lost if they were removed from their setting on the canal.

Hill Farm, Streethay (WHA039)

- 4.3.10 The farm comprises a number of buildings on site of 19th century farm – there is no historic fabric visible from the exterior of the current buildings but some fabric may survive in the earliest structures. The farm faces south and east towards the Coventry Canal and Fulfen Wood. There are existing railway lines 100m to the west and 500m to the south of the farm.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the assets

- 4.3.11 The buildings' significance lie in their group value as buildings of some historic character in historic open field surrounds. The original access to the farm is now approached via an underpass beneath the railway line. Even so, the farm's raised location and surrounding fields provide some appreciation of the likely original 19th century farm setting. There is noise from the railways and from the A38.

Field Cottage, Streethay cottage and Elverceter (WHA039)

- 4.3.12 The three houses near to Streethay Manor House and sharing its access may be of medieval or post medieval origin. They appear on late 19th century mapping, and lie in the possible location of the Anglo-Saxon to late medieval village of Streethay. It is thought based on their position that they stand in place of or incorporate former outbuildings associated with the 17th century or later Manor, although there is no documentary evidence to support the idea. There is evidence of historic agricultural activity on the field opposite the asset along the A38, where civil war finds have also been recorded (Aerial photo CUCAP CPZ84, CUCAP RC8FZ053-55 (1984)).

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.3.13 The buildings' significance lie in their group value as buildings of some historic character lying on the approach to Streethay Manor and possibly having had a relationship to the manor in the past. Their fabric and setting are otherwise not key to their significance.

Rough Stockings, (WHA046)

- 4.3.14 Rough Stockings, (WHA046) is a cottage with 19th century appearance situated on the north bank of the Mare Brook within a wooded lane and facing Streethay Manor. A building is shown on this site on historic maps of 1880, but it is not certain whether any of this early building survives within the current fabric.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.3.15 The significance of the building lies in its fabric and in its historic open field setting, adjacent to the Mare Brook. The building will always have had views across the fields to Streethay Manor, and will be a significant landmark in views from the Manor itself. The building's historic access and surrounding historic landscape have survived well, despite the presence of the A38. There is noise from the A38.

Hanchwood House (WHA080)

- 4.3.16 Hanchwood House is a 19th century house with significant modern alterations. It is situated on Shaw Lane, screened from the road by a plantation of trees and faces east towards John's Gorse.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.3.17 The significance of the building lies solely in its character as a building of 19th century date, one of several in the nearby landscape forming a coherent group. Its fabric and setting are not otherwise significant.

The Trent and Mersey Canal Conservation Area (WHA340)

- 4.3.18 The conservation area extends from Fradley Junction to Handsacre. The character of the conservation area is rural, with open fields to either side interspersed with patches of woodland. Wood End Lock is the focus in terms of historic and listed structures in this section of the canal (Wood End lock and bridge WHA338, lock keepers cottage WHA339 and a milestone WHA341 all listed Grade II), with Tuppenhurst Bridge also listed Grade II just south of Handsacre.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.3.19 The significance of the canal lies in the sequence and pattern of its structures and associated buildings and in its quiet landscape setting. Views between the features and along the canal from Wood End eastwards and westwards are of primary significance, and the open country setting at Wood End with field views northwards also contributes to the historic character of the asset. Tuppenhurst Bridge also affords views out across open fields which contribute to the rural setting of the canal. Tow paths which are used as public footpaths provide important access to the canal, from which the historic character of the structures and peaceful landscape setting can be appreciated.

4.4 Key built heritage assets within 500m of the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme**Whittington Barracks (WHA301), structures listed Grade II**

- 4.4.1 The barracks were constructed on the heath in the late 19th century on undeveloped heathland, next to the racecourse. On the site today, a number of the 1870s buildings do survive, as well as additional pre-1960s structures. Four of these buildings are of architectural interest (see Appendix CH-002-022) and are Listed Grade II. They are the Garrison church of St George, the Keep and two regimental war memorials. The principal facade of the Keep faces north, with open views over former playing grounds currently under development as living accommodation for service personnel. Views to the south and west are screened by existing tree cover and development. The other buildings are contained within and face inwards.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.2 The landscape setting of the barracks is not key to its significance – apart from the Keep, the buildings face inwards, and the arrangement of current and historic barracks buildings around the parade square provides the most significant aspect of the asset's context. The barracks is designed to prevent views in and out. There is noise from the Tamworth Road.

Huddlesford Grange Farm (WHA122) listed Grade II

- 4.4.3 Huddlesford Grange Farm is an early 18th century red brick T-shaped farmhouse within an historic farmyard setting. The farm has views toward the current railway line and to the Coventry Canal.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.4 The significance of the asset lies predominantly in its fabric and in its value as a group of farm buildings of post medieval date. The setting of the farm is already much changed from its original setting, with the railway line running less than 50m to the north which makes the farm itself noisy. Approaches to the farm from Huddlesford Lane survive, and appreciation of the original historic context and character of the farm can be had from the lane which is quiet and rural in character.

Cedar House (WHA358) listed Grade II

- 4.4.5 Cedar House is a Grade II listed 18th century red brick house on Burton Road near its junction with the A38. The setting of the house is edge of village, with the A38 slip road dominating the approach to the property. Views to the north are to open fields.

- 4.4.6 The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset: the significance of the asset lies predominantly in its fabric. The setting of the house is already much changed, with the audible A38 running less than 100m to the east and with more recent village housing now reaching as far as the western side of the property. Any open views towards the Scheme are shielded by Streethay House Farm.

Streethay House Farmhouse (WHA359) listed Grade II

- 4.4.7 Streethay House Farm was built in the 18th century – its farmhouse and associated farm buildings were laid out around a regular courtyard: some historic ranges survive but they are much altered. The farm would once have been in an open landscape but now modern development reaches right to the entrance to the courtyard – the A38 sliproad has altered the historic approach to the property.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.8 The significance of the asset lies predominantly in its fabric. The setting of the farm is already much changed, with the A38 running less than 100m to the east, and audible, and with more recent village housing now reaching as far as the farm, where originally there would have been open fields. Surviving open field views that contribute to significance are towards Curborough.

Streethay Manor (WHA132) and plunge pool listed Grade II and Scheduled

- 4.4.9 Streethay Manor is an early 17th century brick house with 18th to 20th century alterations located at the northern end of Streethay on the A38. It is listed Grade II. In the garden, a square ashlar building with stepped pyramidal roof sheltering a plunge bath, possibly dating to the late 17th century is also listed Grade II. The site surrounding the Manor (its garden) is a Scheduled Monument – a 'single, polygonal, flat moated site circa 80 metres by 75 metres with a long narrow fishpond to the south'. The Manor and its garden lie within open fields accessed via a lane flanked by cottages of possibly 19th century date. Access is directly onto the A38.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.10 The significance of the Manor and plunge pool lies predominantly in their fabric, and in their value as an 18th century group. The significance of the Scheduled Monument lies in the archaeological evidence of the original structure. The setting of the Manor in terms of its aspect and approaches has already been greatly altered – from an open field setting to one adjacent to a main road. The A38 has severed the house from any former farmland to the south and creates noise audible from within the Manor gardens. Significant surviving views are to the north (towards Rough Stockings house), east and west. The setting of the scheduled monument is already compromised by the Manor itself, although the later building does represent continuity of occupation on the site, which must have had considerable status in the landscape from the medieval period onwards.

Hangars at RAF Lichfield (WHA316)

- 4.4.11 A group of three hangars just south of Fradley Wood are noted on the historic environment record for Staffordshire. The hangars are the few surviving elements of the airfield that reflect its original layout and function, with most other structures and the original layout of the airfield no longer extant. Now in industrial use, the hangars were operational from 1940 when RAF Lichfield was one of the busiest airfields in the country with some 113,800 take-offs and landings being made between 1942 and June 1945. Although mainly a storage depot and a training unit some bombing raids were undertaken from Lichfield. It was the only airfield in north-west England from which aircraft took off for the thousand bomber raid on Cologne in May 1942. Lichfield was retained by the RAF after the war and became the base of a flying school in the 1950s finally closing in April 1958.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.12 Although the layout of the airfield is no longer legible, and many of the buildings which provided context for the hangars are gone, they still retain some historic character and significance as a group, in their landscape setting adjacent to Fradley Wood, and set within some of the original airfield hardstandings.

Fradley Junction Conservation Area (WHA150)

- 4.4.13 The conservation area covers the canal junction and associated buildings. It contains five listed 1770s locks and bridges: Hunts Lock, Bridge 50/Keeper's Lock, Bridge 51/Lock, Middle Lock, Bridge 52/Shade House Lock. Other buildings within the conservation area are Wharf house, several workshops from 1872 listed for group value and the 18th century Swan Inn.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.14 The buildings are contained within an enclosed, tree lined and quiet area with views focussed mainly towards the junction of the canals as well as south and north along the canal network. The layout of the junction and its approaches alongside and on the canal are key to the significance of the asset.

Seedy Mill Waterworks (WHA169), listed grade II

- 4.4.15 The asset is a neo-Georgian pumping station built in 1938. It has tall arched windows with small roundels above. Within the curtilage is a red brick industrial shed. The

buildings are set back from Lichfield road and screened by trees from the current railway line.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.16 The significance of the asset is in its fabric and in the association of the structures on the site with the nearby reservoir.

Hanch Hall and Hanch Hall Farm (WHA325), listed Grade II* and Grade II

- 4.4.17 Hanch Hall itself is listed Grade II*, the farm and features of the Hall are Grade II. Hanch Hall is an early 18th century country house in red brick with some 19th century elements (such as the ballroom and servants wing added c1840). Within the grounds are a Grade II listed coach house, stables, walls and gate piers dated to c1700, with later alterations and additions. The gate, piers and wall surrounding the grounds are also listed Grade II.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.18 The significance of the buildings lies in their fabric, and in their value as a contemporary group. The setting of the group is within thin plantation and gardens, fronting onto the Lichfield Road, where the main entrances to the properties lie. The majority of the Hall and the farm structures are not easily seen from the road. Traffic from the Lichfield Road and the current railway line can be heard.

Tuppenhurst Farm (WHA188), listed Grade II

- 4.4.19 The farm is an early 18th century red brick farmhouse, possibly incorporating earlier structures. The farmhouse is within a farm complex, adjacent to the Trent and Mersey Canal and less than 400m from the current railway line at Handsacre.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.20 The significance of the farm lies in both its fabric and its open field setting. Views towards the canal and to the north are open and rural, with the current railway line in the distance. The surroundings are quiet.

Clarkes Hayes (WHA189), listed Grade II

- 4.4.21 Clarkes Hayes is a 17th century timber framed farmhouse with some brick rebuilding, remodelled in the mid-20th century. It is situated within the conurbation of Handsacre with no open field views.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.22 The significance of the building lies in its fabric. Its setting makes no contribution to its significance.

Woodend Common Barn (WHA065)

- 4.4.23 Woodend Common Barn is a late 19th century barn with modern alterations, including a modern roof. It is situated in an open field setting near to the Trent and Mersey Canal north of Wood End Lock.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.24 The significance of the barn lies in its fabric and in its open field setting, sheltered by a small area of woodland, and set within farmland which it would likely originally have served for storage. It is one of a group of 19th century buildings in the surrounding landscape, which is characterised by contemporary 19th century fields.

Common Farm (WHA364)

- 4.4.25 The farm comprises a group of 19th century farm buildings with modern extensions and alterations, in an open field setting east of Kings Bromley Wharf. The older buildings still have significant character and have been recently restored for business use. The farm is approached along a hedge-lined driveway and faces towards the Trent and Mersey Canal.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.26 The fabric of the farm has been altered, but its significance lies in its remaining original fabric, and particularly in its setting and group value. The farm is of a period when isolated farms dotted the landscape, and is one of a few that still survive in its original setting of open 19th century fields. The farm also retains its original long driveway and has a quiet setting.

Whittington Hill House and Hill Farm (WHA022)

- 4.4.27 Whittington Hill house is a late 19th century house with early 20th century and sympathetic later 20th century alterations. It is set in quiet, traditional gardens adjacent to Hill Farm. Hill Farm is an associated group of 19th century farm buildings set round a yard. The buildings are in a hilltop location within open fields and views towards the contemporary Ellfield House as well as towards Lichfield.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.28 The significance of the asset lies in its fabric, but also in its quiet garden setting which enhances the house's historic character. The visual connection to contemporary Ellfield House contributes to the value of the setting.

Shaw House (WHA079),

- 4.4.29 The asset is a much altered late 18th century two storey brick cottage with brick out-buildings, fronting onto Shaw Lane with open fields to the north and west. The house is near to the current railway line which can be heard from the garden.

The contribution setting makes to the significance of the asset

- 4.4.30 The significance of the asset lies in its remaining fabric, and its position fronting Shaw Lane at the corner with Tuppenhurst Lane, both of which retain a strong rural character.

4.5 Key designated built heritage assets within 2km of the centreline

- 4.5.1 No designated assets or their settings within 2km of the centreline will be affected by the Proposed Scheme.

5 Historic map regression

- 5.1.1 The analysis of the cartographic evidence for the Study Area has been integrated within the archaeological and historical baseline narrative (Sections 4.6-4.8 above).

6 Historic landscape

- 6.1.1 The Study Area lies predominantly within Natural England's Character Area 67 'Cannock Chase and Cank Wood', characterised by higher ground and roughly coinciding with the extent of medieval Cannock Forest. The area is characterised by its canal network, plantations, heathland and historic parkland.
- 6.1.2 The Cannock Chase NCA lies on the watershed, with much of it draining east into the River Trent via the River Tame and a number of smaller tributaries that drain Cannock Chase⁷⁶.
- 6.1.3 The very northern part of the Study Area near Handsacre lies in the 'Trent Valley Washlands' (NCA69) – this is a distinct, linear, landscape including the valleys of two main tributaries, the Tame and the Soar, which drain in from the south⁷⁷.
- 6.1.4 The general pattern of the landscape of the Study Area fits the description of Oliver Rackham's 'ancient countryside'⁷⁸, which is 'dispersed hamlets, small towns and ancient isolated farms, linked by lanes that pass through small patches of woodland and heathland'.
- 6.1.5 The modern landscape character of the Study Area has been analysed as part of the Lichfield Historic Landscape Character Assessment:
- Southern end of the Study Area to Streethay: the area of the heath and its surrounds are unenclosed. At Hill Farm and northwards to Fulfen there are areas of smaller irregular enclosure and there are early small fields at Mill Farm. North of Huddlesford the landscape character is late 19th century in date (HECA 10a and LHECZ14/26);
 - Fradley airfield and Curborough: industrial in character while the flying field has reverted to its 19th century farmland character. Otherwise reorganised 1880s fields as far as Ravenshaw Wood (LHECZ 8 and 9);
 - Ravenshaw Wood westwards: a mixture of 18th and 19th century planned and semi planned field systems and post 1880s reorganised fields and plantation. There is a notable area of floodplain and smaller fields around the Bourne Brook and two small patches of ancient woodland between Vicar's Coppice and John's Gorse (HECA 11 and part of HECZ 16); and
 - East of Handsacre: reorganised fields of 19th century date on the gravels around Tuppenhurst Farm. South of Ashton Hayes towards the Bourne Brook these are 18th/19th century semi planned fields (HECA 10b and LHECZ 11).
- 6.1.6 The southern part of the Study Area is not well-documented historically. Most of this part of Staffordshire was part of the Bishop of Lichfield's estate from before Domesday until 1548. The area around Whittington does not appear to be of great importance to the estate with few references until annual horse races were held on Whittington Heath in 1702. The golf course was established in 1910 and remains in use

⁷⁶ Natural England NCA 67 Profile August 2012, www.naturalengland.org.uk.

⁷⁷ Natural England NCA 69 Key Facts and Data, www.naturalengland.org.uk.

⁷⁸ Rackham, O. (1986), *The History of the Countryside*. London: Dent, pp. 4-5.

today. The importance of the race course in Lichfield's history can still be seen in the current landscape, with the Jockey Belt woodland along the road leading from Lichfield to Whittington Heath as well as parts of the original racecourse still being visible in the golf course itself (see Asset WHA303).

- 6.1.7 Before there was a racecourse on Whittington Heath it was Common land. According to the 1860 Post Office Directory Whittington Heath was an 'open sheep walk'. Whittington Barracks was opened in 1880, built on part of this open land. Fields surrounding Whittington Heath exhibit two distinct patterns: large-scale, post-war fields and piecemeal (and reorganised piecemeal) enclosure. The piecemeal enclosures suggest small-scale encroachment on Common land. Whittington parish was enclosed by Act of Parliament in 1879. The road names reflect historic land use: Common Lane runs from near Packington Hall to Whittington, and Whittington Common Road links Whittington with Lichfield to the west.
- 6.1.8 Further north within the Study Area enclosure may have happened much earlier and more formally. Place names such as Streethay, Brookhay, Bears Hay, Tomhay, Ashton Hays, Alrewas Hayes and Hopwas Hays refer to hedges or hedged enclosures. Streethay, for example, refers to the enclosure (hay) near the Roman Road (street – Ryknild Street)⁷⁹. Aerial photographs show evidence of enclosures in fields near the modern settlement of Streethay, along the route of the Roman Road. The field patterns near Streethay are a combination of both small and large irregular fields, piecemeal and re-organised piecemeal enclosure, and some very large post-war fields. As was the case near Whittington, this suggests patterns of early field enclosures and some of the hedgerow alignments may be quite old.
- 6.1.9 Alrewas Hayes, the name of the waste lands near Fradley, may refer to the historic presence of alders – Ashton Hays likewise referring to ash trees. We know some of these areas did include managed woodlands – in 1237 King Henry gave 10 oaks from woodlands at Alrewas, Bentley and Hopwas Hays to the Franciscan Friars of Lichfield with which to build their church⁸⁰. Fradley, along with Bromley and Apsley, are nearby places with the common –ley denoting a clearing in a wood. Other woodland names include Elmhurst, Millhurst, Wood End, Shaw, and Tuppenhurst⁸¹. Vicar's Coppice attests not only to the woodland that still exists, but to the connection between the area and the ecclesiastical estates at Lichfield, not all of which were eradicated by the Dissolution.
- 6.1.10 The importance of water in the Study Area can be seen not only in the numerous brooks and drainages that cross the landscape, but also in their influence on the names of settlements: Fulfen in the south refers to the 'foul fen'; nearby Marsh Farm and Marsh Cottage also reflect the waterlogged nature of the area. Curborough Brook appears to act also as a boundary, with a bank along the brook identified as part of a feature forming the parish boundary between Alrewas and Kings Bromley parishes. Further north, Black Slough Farm, the Meadows Farm, Slough Woods (shown on the 1884 OS map near Vicar's Coppice, but now gone) and Slaish all refer to areas which are either consistently wet or prone to flooding.

⁷⁹ Gelling, M. (1984), *Place-Names in the Landscape*. J.M. Dent: London.

⁸⁰ Greenslade 1990.

⁸¹ Gelling 1984.

- 6.1.11 The junction of the Trent and Mersey Canal with the Coventry Canal at Fradley Junction lies just within the study area. The junction involved the construction of a flight of 11 locks. The influence of the canals extends to the general pattern of 17th and 18th century land-use, and many of the fields adjacent to the canals are of a planned enclosure type, either Parliamentary or other large rectilinear fields, associated with landscape change around the construction of the canal network.
- 6.1.12 Two areas of defined historic landscape character within the Study Area have been identified as assets (WHA227 and WHA228) :
- (WHA227, Curborough piecemeal enclosure) is a block of small, irregular fields representing early and piecemeal enclosures. The VCH notes individual strips being recorded in the area as early as 1312⁸². In 1610 Anthony Dyott, the owner of Stychbrook, noted that his open-field land there could be easily enclosed with the consent of other freeholders 'who are very forward for that purpose'⁸³, suggesting that enclosure of fields was relatively common by then. This particular landscape represents something of an early landscape island in an area of otherwise developed, 20th century and later patterns; and
 - (WHA228, Longdon piecemeal enclosure) is a coherent block of irregular fields representing early and piecemeal enclosure. This landscape is mostly surrounding the village of Longdon and is related to the same landscape type near Curborough (Curborough and Elmhurst were a township of Longdon Manor). This area represents a large, coherent and legible area of early enclosure, having the added advantage of limited boundary loss since the 1st edition OS maps.

⁸² Greenslade 1990.

⁸³ Ibid., pp. 239-247.

7 Historic parks and gardens

- 7.1.1 Cathedral Close and Park within the conurbation of Lichfield is a Grade II registered park (WHA126). It has no visual connection to the Proposed Scheme.
- 7.1.2 There are no other Grade I, II* or II Registered Parks within 2km of the area of land take. Undesignated parks and gardens of local historical significance are described below.
- 7.1.3 To the west of Whittington Barracks, the grounds of Freeford Manor (WHA300) extend into the Study Area and as far as the upper reaches of Darnford Brook. The current house (formerly known as Freeford Hall) may stand on or near the site of a medieval house, but the current house is 1730s in date, with 19th century additions and Listed Grade II. There was an enclosed park at Freeford already in the earlier 17th century⁸⁴: the parkland was used for grazing sheep and cattle in the early 18th century, and in the later 1790s it united 'the utility and profits of farming with the pleasurable beauties of the ornamental landscape'⁸⁵. In the 18th century the estate also encompassed a fishery and warren. The house was originally approached from the north, and by the later 18th century the main approach to the house was along an avenue from the east, but a lodge on the Tamworth road was renovated in the early 19th century, becoming the main access (DHW205). A service road laid out in 1845 joined the Tamworth road at the tollgate, replaced in 1882 by North Lodge. This remained the approach until the 20th century when the eastern avenue became the main approach again, via a lodge (East Lodge WHA311) rebuilt in the late 19th century. While the house itself is listed, the remains of the 18th century manor estate are not substantial and are not designated.
- 7.1.4 Whittington Heath Golf Course designed landscape (WHA303) is on the site of the former Whittington Racecourse, which appears on the tithe map of 1939 for Whittington Parish. Lichfield Races were moved to the Heath in 1702 and during the eighteenth century became one of the leading race meetings of the Midlands. According to contemporary sources, races lasted for 2 or 3 weeks and formed the focus for a great social occasion with dinners, balls and concerts taking place and in and around Lichfield⁸⁶. Stands were opened on the course in 1773 and 1803 (the latter near the 2nd tee of the golf course). By 1750 Lichfield was the only racecourse in Staffordshire and continued until 1895. Between 1840 and 1875 a new brick grandstand was built adjacent to the main road (WHA302).
- 7.1.5 The Whittington Heath course is said to be one of the oldest in England, and reflects the period's social and sporting history. The earliest golf course was begun by a Colonel at Whittington barracks in 1886, to boost troop morale. Whittington Barracks Golf Club secured a lease on the course in 1910 (only buying the land from the army in 1994 to become Whittington Heath Golf Club). In 1927 the course was remodelled to provide eighteen holes within a heathland and woodland setting. It is unknown how much of the landscape of the racecourse survives within the current golf course, but features that might still be seen include the stands (particularly if incorporated into

⁸⁴ Greenslade 1990.

⁸⁵ Pitt, W. (1796), *A General View of the Agriculture of the County of Staffordshire*, cited in Greenslade 1990.

⁸⁶ Greenslade 1990.

later structures) as well as markers and evidence of course of the track (the “road” to the right of the 6th fairway and at the back of the 7th Green⁸⁷. LiDAR Survey undertaken in 2012 has identified a number of features on the heath possibly evidence of military activity, as well as some features of possibly medieval date or earlier (see Appendix CH-004-022).

- 7.1.6 The historic landscape of RAF Lichfield (WHA316) was originally planned as an aircraft storage unit, extending well beyond the site of the current industrial park. It was operational as an airfield from 1940. Many airfield features currently in the industrial site are well known and understood in terms of their contribution to the layout and function of RAF Lichfield (such as the hangars and pill boxes). However, there are some features and possibly finds related to the development and use of the airfield beyond the boundary of the current industrial site, extending towards Curborough and as far as Fradley Wood: LiDAR has identified some of these early features of the airfield (see Appendix CH-004-022).
- 7.1.7 A walk-over of the surrounding area was undertaken in early February 1995⁸⁸, at which time quantities of brick and ceramic pipe fragments were observed in most fields close to the airfield, probably waste from the demolition of airfield structures, but material that could contain finds relating to the World War use of the site. The remains of a pan-handle shaped strip of hard standing exists in the fields between the Auction Centre and Curborough House. Concrete bunkers, sheds and stores and anti-tank cylinders not on the airfield plan or visible on later maps may also be found around the airfield’s perimeter. There will also be much disturbance in places around the airfield for levelling and for the burial of materials during and after the airfield’s use – these are also not mapped, but can be seen on aerial photographs (NMR RAF/58/1151/0216).
- 7.1.8 The northern extent of a landscape park (WHA323) associated with Elmhurst Hall (now demolished) extends into the study area. The park may have been established by the late 16th or early 17th century⁸⁹ and while the surrounding parkland has not been developed, the area where the Hall once stood has been altered significantly. Elmhurst Hall is thought to have been located just north west of the Hamlet of Elmhurst, near to the present Elmhurst Hall Farm. The Elmhurst estate was owned by the Biddulph Family in the 1570s and then by Samuel Swinfen the mid 18th century. An illustration of the late 17th century shows a building with a raised, balustraded terrace to the front of the property. The hall was demolished in 1804 and rebuilt by a John Smith – supposedly on the alignment of the former house, facing north-east, and there was a ha-ha in front of it⁹⁰. This house too was demolished in 1921. A large walled garden on the south side of the house existed by the earlier 1740s, when it was planted with fruit trees and apparently included a hot house and a greenhouse by 1808. The walled area survives as an enclosure. In the later 18th century the hall was approached from the west along a drive from Tewnals Lane. A small lodge on the road existed by 1832. High Field Lodge south of the hall was built in the late 19th century.

⁸⁷ www.whittingtonheathgc.co.uk.

⁸⁸ Field, N., and Tann, G. (1995), *Fradley Park. Development, Lichfield, Staffordshire: Environmental Assessment: Archaeology and Heritage*. Unpublished Client Report, Lindsey Archaeological Services.

⁸⁹ Greenslade 1990.

⁹⁰ Ibid.

- 7.1.9 Hanch Hall (WHA325), the Grade II* Listed country house, originally sat within a designed estate. The estate would probably have been laid out in the early 18th century. The estate stables, coach house and gate piers are extant and Listed Grade II. No estate plan has been found, but based on historic maps it appears that the former parkland (MST6301) was broken up in the 19th century, being gradually overtaken by later farms (although not built over) and, on a large scale, by the Seedy Mill Treatment works to the south east of the house. The Seedy Mill itself may well have been the estate mill (the HER describes MST2253 as a former watermill complex with origins before 1775) but it was re-planned in the 19th century with a mill house, yard and offices (the mill, cartshed and mill house are all Listed grade II).

7.2 Important hedgerows

- 7.2.1 Five hedgerows within the Whittington to Handsacre area meet criteria 1 to 5 of Schedule One, Part II of the 1997 Hedgerow Regulations and can therefore be considered 'important' under the terms of the Regulations:
- WHA330: along the Lichfield-Tamworth Road, following an historic parish boundary and forming the south-western boundary of the Whittington Heath Golf Course;
 - WHA331: along an historic parish boundary near Hilliard's Cross;
 - WHA332: crossing the Trent and Mersey Canal, along the same alignment as a known historic boundary bank (WHA319) recorded to the south of the canal, possibly part of an historic parish boundary;
 - WHA334: along the boundary of Vicar's Coppice, on Tewnals Lane; and
 - WHA335: along the boundary of Hanch Hall park, also possibly a former historic parish boundary.

8 Archaeological character

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 To determine the archaeological potential for the study area, it was sub-divided into Archaeological Character Areas (ACA). These ACAs are derived from a consideration of the current topography, geology and current land use of the area. From these factors the potential for recovery of archaeological remains are considered.

8.1.2 From these broad character areas, the landscape was further subdivided into Archaeological Sub-Zones (ASZ), which have allowed for a more in-depth understanding of the archaeological potential of the study area. Although initially defined and characterised by current land use, a number of additional factors have determined the potential of these sub-zones to contain archaeological remains of significance. These factors include topography, geology, historic character and distribution of known archaeological finds, sites and assets.

8.2 Character areas

8.2.1 The ACAs described below extend from south to north within the study area.

ACA 1 heathland

8.2.2 ACA 1 encompasses the area around Whittington and landscape around Streethay. It is former heathland and is characterised by low hills and winding lanes, falling to lowland south of Streethay itself. The area is dominated by 20th century changes to field patterns by expanded settlement and infrastructure, particularly around Lichfield and Streethay. Some earlier field patterns do survive near to Whittington. Archaeological potential will be high in areas that include earlier settlement, on heathland and around tributaries of the Tame (e.g. WHA320 Mare Brook prehistoric landscape).

ACA 2 plateau and plantation

8.2.3 ACA 2 lies closer to the Trent Tame confluence, is on slightly higher ground and contains plenty of evidence for later prehistoric activity towards the river valleys. 20th century development includes the former RAF Fradley and modern housing and industrial estates at Fradley Park. The area is dominated by field systems created in the 18th and 19th century and by patches of woodland. There will be high archaeological potential within the river valleys and around Curborough. The higher woodland terrace towards Kings Bromley may also be of archaeological potential.

ACA 3 river terrace

8.2.4 A third Archaeological Character Zone may be distinguished at the northernmost end of the scheme near Handsacre, which lies in the 'Trent Valley Washlands' (NCA69) – this is a distinct, linear, landscape along the river valley, and including the Tame valley. At Handsacre the defining landform change is a gradual transition up from the floodplain⁹¹. The area is dominated by 19th century field systems and a dispersed

⁹¹ Natural England NCA 69 Key Facts and Data, www.naturalengland.org.uk.

settlement pattern. Archaeological potential will be high where gravels and alluvial channels extend from the Trent Valley.

8.3 Archaeological sub-zones

- 8.3.1 The ASZs are presented in table 1 from south-north within the study area. Plans showing the sub-zones can be found in Appendix 5 (CH-03-119b; CH-03-120; CH-03-121; CH-03-122; CH-03-123).

Table 1: Archaeological sub-zones

No	Name	Topography	Geology	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
1	Whittington Heath	100m AOD Former unenclosed heathland plateau, converted predominantly to golf course	Sandstone plateau	Golf Course	Heathland overlooking river Tame in prehistory/ medieval period	Prehistoric finds, and remains relating to use of the racecourse and use of the heath by the military 19th/20th centuries. Military camp site. Other features of medieval to modern date. Bronze axe found on the heath, location of Lichfield racecourse, proximity to Whittington barracks. LiDAR shows NW/SE ditch and possible former military camp. Also some areas of quarrying. There is a circular earthwork and evidence of medieval agriculture or post medieval plantation.
15	Whittington Barracks	100m AOD plateau, dropping on wooded slopes – barracks and rifle ranges	Sandstone plateau extending into mudstone slopes	Barracks	Heathland overlooking river Tame in prehistory/ medieval period	Finds and features relating to historic development of the barracks, secondary potential for finds of other periods due to disturbance.
16	Whittington fields	70-75m AOD, 1880s reorganised fields, low lying and separated by lanes and hedgerows	Mudstone	Agricultural fields	Fields associated with Whittington village	Finds relating to agricultural use of the land from the Roman and Medieval periods to present day. Roman and medieval pottery and coins found immediately south of Whittington.
17	Fulfen Marsh	60m AOD, low lying marshy ground	Mudstone	Pasture	Marsh south of 'Foul-Fen' (Fulfen) and close to the outskirts of Lichfield	Well preserved environmental deposits, sporadic finds dating to early medieval settlement at Lichfield onwards.
18	Hill Farm	80-90m AOD Open farmland (post 1880s fields) lying on low rising hills	Sandstone	Agricultural fields	Outlying settlement to Whittington, early enclosure around Hill Farm.	Medieval and post medieval dispersed settlement remains and early features of Hill Farm. Whittington village, Hill Farm. LiDAR shows former quarry pits north of Hill Farm (WA7.8). Also 2 further ponds and a low earthwork boundary to the south of the farm (WA7.7/6)

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No	Name	Topography	Geology	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
3	Darnford Brook	Low lying (60m AOD) around Darnford brook. Early piecemeal enclosure and small rectilinear fields	Alluvial channel through mudstone	Pasture	The brook runs into the Tame near Fisherwick Roman and prehistoric settlements.	Findings and features of prehistoric to medieval date associated with the brook – possibly buried beneath alluvial deposits. Features of medieval mill. Medieval mills at Bunyans and Darnford, also the medieval village of Fulfen. An early Mesolithic-Mid Bronze age arrowhead found on the brook at MST1497. Small area of former ridge and furrow SW of Huddlesford bridge (LiDAR). LiDAR also shows series of linear earthworks/boundaries south of Fulfen cottages. Ponds and leats of mill farm also visible.
4	Fulfen Brook	Low lying, 60m AOD, historically marshy around Fulfen Brook. Post 1880s field pattern – runs alongside Coventry Canal	Mudstone	Pasture	Medieval farmland between the parishes of Whittington, Streethay and Fulfen. On the Fulfen Brook which reaches the Tame just south of prehistoric and Roman sites at Whitemoor Haye.	Possible features (bridge? track ways?) or findings of Saxon and early medieval period preserved within marshland, with a comparable potential for prehistoric findings and features. Potential for canal-associated features. Possible moated site/crop marks at MST2071 as well as a ring ditch and enclosure at MST2081/2. Nearby Saxon settlements of Lichfield and Moughale. LiDAR shows boundaries and drainage ditches and large hollow/pond within and adjacent to Fulfen Wood.
5	Streethay South	70m AOD farmland, post 1880s fields, much altered by modern infrastructure	Mudstone	Agricultural fields	Southern part of Streethay parish	Possible outlying features or field systems relating to Medieval Streethay or evidence of other dispersed settlement. Medieval Streethay – some anomalies in fields south of Streethay Farm aerial photographs. Hill farm and surrounding fields including pond (shown on LiDAR).
19	Modern Streethay	Modern residential development 70m AOD	Mudstone	Modern settlement	Settlement expanded over fields (and possibly over settlement) of medieval Streethay	Buried features of Medieval buildings may survive within modern settlement.
20	Medieval Streethay	Open fields north and west of modern Streethay 70m-80m AOD	Mudstone	Agricultural fields/pasture	Near to lost settlements of Medieval Streethay and Morughale	Medieval remains relating to villages of Streethay and Morughale. Streethay Manor and possible settlement, location of lost village of Morughale.

No	Name	Topography	Geology	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
6	Mare Brook	Low lying fields and pasture, 65m AOD along the Mare Brook. Post 1880s field systems	Mudstone with glacial head and narrow bands of river terrace gravels	Pasture	The Mare brook reaches the Tame just south of prehistoric and Roman sites at Whitemoor Haye.	Gravel deposits possibly contain palaeochannels, Other features relating to all prehistoric periods and Roman. Also Medieval features associated with Rough Stockings and Streethay and post Med civil war finds. Cropmarks of prehistoric/Roman date at MST1328. Metal detecting recovered civil war finds (Streethay Manor owner pers.comm) north of Manor. LiDAR shows oval hollows in fields south of the Mare Brook (quarries/ponds).
21	Fradley Park	Plateau at approximately 75m AOD, industrial park on the site of RAF Lichfield	Predominantly glaciofluvial	Industrial estate/airfield	Main buildings and runways of RAF Lichfield, and later industrial development	Buildings and features of RAF Lichfield. None other than 20th century/LiDAR shows irregular pond, and possible trenches/buildings relating to early airfield.
7	Medieval Curborough	Low lying flatish fields around a brook leading to Curborough Farm (65-70mAOD) once part of former RAF Lichfield, now post 1880s reorganised fields	Mudstone with river terrace deposits south of East Hill Farm	Agricultural fields	Historic farmland in Curborough parish on the east side of Curborough Brook	Curborough 'settlement', probably a series of dispersed farmsteads or a clustering of farmsteads rather than a coherent village (Lichfield HLC LHEZ 28). Some secondary potential for finds associated with RAF Lichfield. Other medieval and post medieval farming and extraction features. Postulated site of the deserted village of Curborough (MST2080), north of Curborough House and ridge and furrow (MST 6263). Possible site of DMV on AP11, as well as remains of airfield hard-standings. East and West Hill Farms – remnant features and buildings. LiDAR shows series of linear earthworks WA7 24. Also WA7 20-23 series of ponds/former quarries.
8	Pyford/Full/ Curborough Brook	65-70m AOD, flat meadows and patchy woodland around the Pyford and Curborough Brooks, cut through by the Trent and Mersey Canal	Glaciofluvial clays sands and gravels with alluvial deposits along brook	Agricultural fields	Pyford Brook leads into the Tame river gravels 500m from the Study Area where there is a known late pre-historic landscape. The brook joins the Tame at Alrewas.	Features and finds relating to the middle and later prehistoric periods, possibly buried within alluvial deposits. Possible medieval features within woods. MST646 Neolithic Axe found on the Curborough/Full Brook, and a similar axes MST977/MST973 200m from the brook, possible ring ditches MST3961 on north bank of brook. Also cropmarks adjacent to Brokendown Wood. LiDAR shows 7 ponds /fishponds (medieval?) in woods at bend in the canal. Also at Big Lyntus, LiDAR shows hollow in NW corner of wood, and series of field boundaries WA7.27/26/25

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No	Name	Topography	Geology	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
9	Ravenshaw Wood	70-75m AOD flat pasture and woodland plantation	Glaciofluvial clays, sands and gravels	Woodland and pasture	Low terrace above the Tame gravels.	Possible isolated finds and features of the prehistoric period. Medieval agricultural features. Possible site of bronze age barrow in pasture west of Ravenshaw Wood. LiDAR shows possible location. LiDAR also shows relict field system and ridge and furrow including in current Woodland.
10	Vicar's Coppice and Tomhay Wood	70-75m AOD, 18th and 19th century replanned fields and remnant 18th century woodland plantation	Glaciofluvial clays, sands and gravels	Woodland	Low terrace, between Ravenshaw wood and prehistoric features of the Bourne Brook	None suspected. Potential for features near the Bourne Brook to extend into this zone – likely to be prehistoric or Roman. Adjacent to cropmarks site at the Bourne Brook. LiDAR shows remains of former field boundaries and ditches.
11	Bourne Brook	65-70m AOD, early rectilinear and flood plan fields around the Bourne Brook – cut through by current railway	Alluvial channel running through glaciofluvial clays, sands and gravels	Agricultural fields	Tributary brook, leading out into the Tame river gravels	Features of prehistoric and Roman date – extent and significance unknown. Possible medieval features associated with lost settlement. Group of three ring ditches and a series of linear features identified as cropmarks (MST ₁₃₂₃) – Neolithic to Roman in date. Earthwork mound MST ₅₂₈₆ adjacent to Hanch Hall). LiDAR shows series of 5 ponds and area of ridge and furrow near John's Gorse.
12	New Farm	70-75m AOD, 18th/19th century farm fields around railway line	Glaciofluvial clays sands and gravels	Agricultural fields	Fields related to New Farm and Elmhurst Hall	None suspected. Close to New Farm and Elmhurst Hall. LiDAR shows four ponds on modern field boundaries.
22	Hanch Hall and Seedy Mill	70-75m AOD – land previously belonging to Hanch Hall, now reservoir and waterworks	Glaciofluvial clays sands and gravels with alluvial channel running up to reservoir	Reservoir, settlement and golf course	Hanch Hall estate land, including farm	Finds and Features relating to the estate at Hanch Hall, possible surviving prehistory in alluvial deposits. Features of Hanch Hall, Listed waterworks
13	Ashton Hayes	70-75m AOD 18th/19th century field systems	Glaciofluvial clays sands and gravels	Agricultural fields	Nearby Shaw Lane Farm and Hanch Hall	None expected. Small likelihood of features and finds relating to any prehistoric activity. Possible trackway (LiDAR).

No	Name	Topography	Geology	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
14	Tuppenhurst	70-75m AOD, flat terrace at the head of a brook	River terrace deposits extending into glaciofluvial clays sands and gravels	Agricultural fields	Terrace directly above the Tame/Trent confluence known prehistoric – Saxon landscape. The brook leads from here to the Trent near Pipe Ridware	Gravel deposits possibly contain palaeochannels, as well as ephemeral features of early prehistoric activity, later features of settlement and agricultural management, burial sites of bronze age and later. Ring ditches and other AP sites MST3978 and MST13449 less than 400m away, Neolithic causewayed enclosure at Mavesyn Ridware 1500m away on opposite bank of the Trent. Axe MST2011 found nearby. LiDAR shows series of seven ponds/pits.
23	Handsacre fields	75-80m AOD, rolling fields extending south and west of Handsacre	Mudstone	Agricultural fields	Agricultural land of Handsacre	Finds and features relating to agricultural use of the land from the early medieval period onwards. Medieval fishpond and mill MST953/957. LiDAR shows linear boundaries and ditches WA7.41.
24	Medieval Handsacre	Modern settlement of Handsacre on terrace above the Trent 80-85m AOD	Glaciofluvial sands and gravels	Modern settlement	Contains medieval village centre. Trent terraces below and opposite contain prehistoric sites including site at Mavesyn Ridware.	Features and finds of early medieval and late Medieval date. Likely prehistoric remains in deeper deposits especially to the north of the area. Handsacre Hall moated site. Remnant ridge and furrow (LiDAR).

9 Analysis and research potential

9.1 Analysis of understanding

- 9.1.1 A good general understanding of the character and significance of the archaeology within the Study Area can be reached using desk based sources and taking into account additional factors such as topography, geology, historic character and distribution of known archaeological finds, sites and assets, as summarised in the table above.
- 9.1.2 The areas of greatest potential within the Study Area are within the valleys and floodplains of the tributaries of the Tame and Trent – valleys within which numerous sites of prehistoric and Roman date have been identified. These tributary channels would have provided natural access to the hinterland of the region from the Trent and Tame, and their potential is illustrated by the numerous stray finds (hand axes and flint tools) and sites found along their length. These tributaries in the Study Area are the Darnford Brook, Fulfen Brook, Mare Brook, Pyford/Curborough Brook and Bourne Brook (sub-zones 3, 4, 6, 8 and 11).
- 9.1.3 In addition, there are areas where river terrace gravels outcrop within the Study Area – at Mare Brook, within Curborough near East Hill Farm, and at the northern end of the scheme at Tuppenhurst Farm. These areas may also yield evidence of prehistoric activity in early stream beds and palaeochannels (sub-zones 3, 7 and 14).
- 9.1.4 While settlement sites are rare, finds and dispersed features of any of the prehistoric periods are likely to be found within the study area.
- 9.1.5 Cropmarks found within the Study Area are also indicative of potentially large areas of occupied and settled landscape – dating potentially from the Neolithic period onwards. These areas and their surrounds are considered to be of high potential. They are at Mare Brook and at the Bourne Brook, with nearby cropmark sites also at Tuppenhurst Farm and Pyford Brook (sub-zones 3, 8, 11 and 14).
- 9.1.6 There is high potential for Anglo-Saxon and Roman remains in the study area, in particular around the northern part of Lichfield (near the Roman road), and around Handsacre, which was an Anglo-Saxon village (sub-zones 5, 6, 19, 20, 14, 23, 24). It is likely that late Roman and Anglo Saxon remains may be found together, as many sites continued in occupation between the periods. Finds and features are likely to be dispersed, and could take the form of small settlement or isolated finds.
- 9.1.7 There is a lesser potential for other medieval and post medieval sites to be found, as sites of these periods are already quite well known – the exception being the ‘lost’ settlements of Fulfen, Morughale and Curborough (sub-zones 3, 20 and 7). Finds and features relating to these sites are also likely to be dispersed, rather than structured well surviving village sites. The two moated sites at Streethay and Fulfen (sub-zones 4 and 20) may yield evidence beyond their currently known site extents.
- 9.1.8 19th and 20th century military archaeology is a feature of this section of the route, and finds associated with Whittington Barracks and with RAF Lichfield may be found within the Study Area (sub-zones 1, 6 and 7).

- 9.1.9 Tributaries of the rivers Tame and Trent may contain datable palaeoenvironmental deposits within former channels which may provide evidence of past environmental conditions over a range of periods. The likely locations of such deposits in this character area are: Mare Brook (sub-zone 6); Medieval Curborough (sub-zone 7); and Tuppenhurst (sub-zone 14).
- 9.1.10 Palaeoenvironmental evidence may also be found within a build-up of alluvial deposits in stream beds or in other waterlogged environments within the study area. These areas will most likely be found in Darnford Brook, Fulfen Brook, Pyford Brook and Bourne Brook (sub-zones 3, 4, 8 and 11).
- 9.1.11 Marshy ground at Fulfen and at Black Slough may also preserve waterlogged deposits, suitable for preserving palaeoenvironmental evidence (sub-zones 2, 26, 27, 28).

9.2 Research potential and priorities

- 9.2.1 An Archaeological Research Framework for the West Midlands⁹² provides an introduction to key themes of research in the region by period. Reflecting the potential of the land required for the Proposed Scheme in this CFA, and drawing on the general themes identified in the published research framework, the following questions could provide the focus for investigation carried out in this Study Area in terms of period based and multi-period based landscape research:
- what was the nature of landscape character on the plateau above the Trent/Tame river terraces from the later prehistoric periods until the early medieval period – what was the extent of woodland in these periods?
 - how far does the prehistoric and Roman settlement and activity known in the Trent/Tame Valley extend up the alluvial channels and gravel terraces?
 - is aerial photography a reliable indicator of presence or absence of sites on the geologies of the study area?
 - where, if anywhere, was there Roman activity in the study area? and
 - what was the influence of Anglo-Saxon and then medieval Lichfield on the study area, in particular, where and of what nature was smaller scale Anglo Saxon and early medieval settlement in the surrounds of the city?

⁹² Watt, S., ed. (2011), *The Archaeology of the west midlands: a framework for research*. Oxford: Oxbow Books.

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10.2 Cartographic resources

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